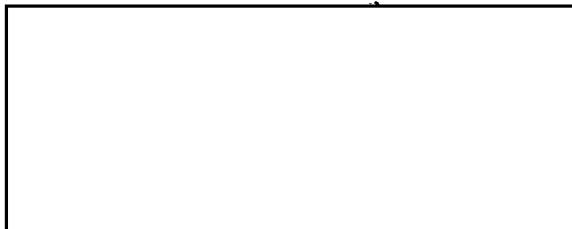


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20 December 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT:

**Government Responsibility for Informing
U. S. Commercial Interests of
Developments Affecting Them**

OGC Has Reviewed

1. This memorandum is for information only.
2. We have undertaken an analysis of the problem you requested the Deputy Director (Support) to place before us. I understand you wish priority placed on this. This memorandum is to indicate our planning.
3. The Government has specific and general responsibilities towards informing private business abroad. The President by the Mutual Assistance Act, State Department by statute and its Consular regulations, ICA and Commerce by law, regulation and Executive Order all have responsibilities for advising, encouraging and aiding U. S. private business abroad. AEC has certain specific statutory duties in this respect. Defense, ODM, Treasury and others to a lesser degree have responsibilities in this field arising out of general relations with private enterprises. These agencies, separately or in concert, can completely service private enterprise in what might be called normal business information. The area not covered is that of "classified" information primarily in the field of political and military developments. This, as I see it, is our problem.
4. My tentative thinking is that the solution lies in a committee somewhat similar to the Economic Defense Advisory Committee but chaired by State and with a specific charter from the National Security Council. The Central Intelligence Agency would be intelligence advisor to the Committee. To develop a charter in this field will require most careful analysis of the types of information

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involved, the conditions under which they might be passed and the categories of recipients both by their relation to the national interest and the various security aspects. So far this thinking would not involve us in direct transmittal of information. We cannot avoid the fact, however, that the Agency, particularly through the Deputy Director (Plans) and Contact Division, have relations with private enterprise that necessarily involve some information going out as well as coming in. Therefore, CIA will have its own direct participation and this again should be analyzed and controlling policies established. The first task, therefore, is one of analysis to expose the problem fully.

5. Unless you indicate otherwise, I will proceed in this line with Deputy Director (Intelligence) and Deputy Director (Plans) and plan to have a paper on these various aspects by 15 January.

LAWRENCE R. HOUSTON
General Counsel